

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~An improved~~ In a bale wagon with having a load bed, a crossbar movable along the load bed, and a plurality of elongate tines, each tine having first and second opposing ends and a longitudinal axis therebetween, said tines attached to the movable crossbar, the improvement comprising:
a plurality of brackets affixed to the crossbar;
a plurality of adjustment bolts;
a plurality of spaced apart openings in each of the tines spaced generally along a portion of the length of the longitudinal axis and adjacent to the respective first ends;
a plurality of cooperative adjustment apertures in each of said brackets, said adjustment apertures arranged in pairs spaced to cooperate with said openings in each respective tine, each said opening aligning with a coordinated pair of the adjustment apertures in each bracket, whereby one of said bolts inserted in a selected pair of said adjustment apertures and a respective opening attaching the tines to the movable crossbar such that causes the tines [are] to be pivotally adjustable adjusted to form a tine tilt angle measured between an essentially vertical surface of the tines the longitudinal axis and the load bed.
2. (Currently Amended) The ~~bale wagon~~ improvement of claim 1 wherein the tines are ~~adjusted to rest at~~ adjustable to one of several positions, said positions ~~reduce~~ reducing the tine tilt angle by increments of about 1.5° to about 2°.
3. (Currently Amended) The ~~bale wagon~~ improvement of claim 1 wherein angular adjustment of the tines allows for variation of the angles at which stacks of bales are unloaded.

4. (Cancelled) The bale wagon of claim 1 wherein the rack of tines comprises a crossbar and brackets to receive the tines in pivotal engagement to the crossbar.
5. (Currently Amended) The ~~bale wagon~~ improvement of claim 1 wherein the ~~attachment of a tine to the crossbar is accomplished using a bracket, the~~ at least one bracket is configured to allow multiple possible positions of tilt for each tine, allowing adjustment of the tine tilt angles from between about 90° and about 84°.
6. (Currently Amended) The ~~bale wagon~~ improvement of claim 1 wherein the tilt angle is selected from the group consisting of 89.5°, 87.5°, 86°, and 84.5°.
7. (Cancelled) The bale wagon of claim 5 further comprising a bolt, and holes in each bracket to allow controlling the tilt angle by moving the bolt from one hole to another.
8. (Currently Amended) A method for unloading tiers of stacked bales from a loaded bale wagon to form a larger stack of bales, said bale wagon having a load bed, a movable crossbar and at least two elongate tines, each tine having first and second opposing ends and a longitudinal axis therebetween, said method comprising[.] : providing a plurality of spaced apart openings in each of the tines spaced generally along a portion of the length of the longitudinal axis and adjacent to the respective first ends; providing a plurality of brackets affixed to the movable crossbar, each bracket having a plurality of cooperative adjustment apertures arranged in pairs spaced to cooperate with said openings in each respective tine, each opening aligning with a coordinated pair of the adjustment apertures in each bracket, whereby inserting a bolt into a selected pair of the adjustment apertures and respective opening causes the tine to be pivotally positioned to a desired tine tilt angle; setting the tines to a desired first tilt angle, unloading a first load of bales to lean at an angle corresponding to [a] the first tilt angle, repositioning the bolt into a second adjustment aperture and respective opening to set the tines to a second tilt

angle, and then, against said first load of bales, unloading a second load bales from the same wagon ~~at a different tilt angle selected by pivotally adjusting the tines on said bale wagon.~~

9. (Cancelled) A method for forming a stack of bales, said method comprising:
unloading a first load of bales from a bale wagon such that said first load generally leans at a first angle;
unloading a second load of bales at a second lean angle adjacent the first load of bales such that said first and second loads interact to reinforce the stacks from falling over, wherein the second lean angle is determined by an adjustment mechanism on the bale wagon.
10. (Cancelled) A method for unloading tiers of stacked bales from a loaded bale wagon to form a larger stack of bales, said method comprising, unloading a first load of bales to lean at an angle corresponding to a first tilt angle, and then, against said first load of bales, unloading a second load of bales from the same wagon at a different tilt angle selected by pivotally adjusting a tine on said bale wagon.